

COMMISSION ON EMERGENCY PLANNING AND RESPONSE

MINUTES

March 8, 2007

Attendees:

Major General Todd Bunting- Adjutant General
Col. William Seck – Kansas Highway Patrol
Mindy Reese – Sitting in for Dick Morrissey – Kansas Dept. of Health and Environment
Jack Taylor – Fire Chief, City of Emporia
Kevin Moles – Wolf Creek Generating Plant
Randy Duncan – Chairman, Sedgwick County Emergency Management
Dan Thompson – State Fire Marshal's Office
Dick Heitschmidt – City of Hutchinson
Jaci Vogel – Kansas Department of Transportation

Members of public and support staff were also in attendance

Members not in Attendance:

Dr. Lyle Noordhoek – Central Plains Laboratory
Karen Schuyler – ASTARS
Ken Schremmer – Barton County Commissioner
Patricia Clark – Kansas Department of Commerce

Meeting

- Meeting was called to order at 10:00 AM.
- Floor opened for public and committee comments.
- Minutes from April 29, 2006 needed official quorum. Today need approval of both, April 29, 2006 and November 8, 2006. Randy Duncan moved to approve both sets of minutes. Col. William Seck seconded the motion; the motion passed unanimously.

Committee Reports:

- LEPC Appointment Committee - Frank Moussa.
Review of nominations LEPC recommendations to committee of appointments. Kevin Moles moved and Dan Thompson seconded the motion; the motion passed unanimously.

- Homeland Security Working Group Committee - Bill Chornyak
 - Informed of multiple agency informal meeting to discuss Homeland Security issues. For example, there are concerns regarding the anti-war march in Lawrence. There are concerns with message on ribbons sold for the march. This is an Open Forum.
 - Last Tuesday a meeting was held with Mark Zinneman of the Kansas City Star regarding the recent fire in Kansas City, MO. There are statutes to identify chemical sites in the state of Kansas. There was a question about concerns regarding the intention for distribution of the information. There is a research effort that is undetermined, but an effort to work with them to publish results.

- Great Plains Training Center - Maj Gen Tod Bunting & Homeland Security Issues
 - The federal government will build a new Bio Security Lab that will replace the existing facility at Plum Island. There are 2 of the 18 sites are in Kansas that are in the running; Manhattan and Leavenworth sites.
 - Maj Gen Bunting reported the plans of a Great Plain Regional Training Center within the State of Kansas. Further discussion by Carl, reported the design of a Regional Joint Training Center in Saline county. This joint training facility would be an integrative environment for implementation of training local, state and regional resources. It includes the Police, Fire, Highway Patrol departments as well as Military resources. The purpose is to meet the needs for network coordination to achieve the goals for Interoperability. For example, there is an agreement between the armed forces of Army and Air Force for improved coordination. This agreement is to 1). Improve Joint Readiness and to 2). Prepare and Develop the “Live” field experience, with the “Constructive” computer data, and “Virtual” situational analysis in training simulations. Training capabilities in KNG facilities and have partnership with Highway Patrol in Salina. Ft. Riley has virtual Training Capability and Smokey Hill Interagency Training. Would try to correlate training with actual combat and tailor exercises for every level. This involves public safety and there are more similarities than differences between military operations and the public sector. Midwest Regional Air and Ground training possibilities includes a 20 year time build-up in both the military and joint perspective.
 - Urban Training Complex and Disaster Cities locations each have a concept layout which includes: Urban Training complex, Multi-use Towers, Simulations Center, Current Concept Structures of Multi-

purpose Building, Collapsed Structures, Communications Regional Hubs, and Deployable CALFS Communication.

- Why Now? It is the right time in that operation needs are coming together in crisis intervention. An attendee raised the question of industry availability. This issue was addressed by stating that the private industry sector needs to be included. The Government cannot sustain operations alone. Private enterprise needs to be included if the goal of Interoperability is achieved. Col. William Seck made a statement to meet with the 3 law enforcement agencies. Maj Gen Todd Bunting discussed designing scenarios for training to achieve proficiency levels instead of only familiarity levels.

Regional Council & Exercise Update

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Terri Ploger-McCool

- Terri Ploger-McCool reported on the update for the Regional Council and Exercise program. For the Homeland, this program includes the Training the Trainer Exercise Development Evaluation Program, the design and development of software that is web-based, a tool-kit demonstration of a National Exercise Schedule. The statewide Exercise Advisory Team has a strategy to look at two aspects differently. 1) Exercise requirements and 2) Exercise Desire. Also discussed the list of agencies and requirements of Exercise funding requirements. The scenario situations include 1). Incident Management 2) Need to put into practice EOC operations 3) Common Interoperability.
- Terri discussed the Exercise Update involving multi-county participation and multi-state partnerships. She reported of a SONS Exercise with Missouri in June. There is much expansion and common thinking in state and multi-state involvement. There are mass care issues such as the New Madrid earthquake fault issues. There is need of EMAC support in the 1st few hours of a major earthquake.
- Discussion of Regional Council 2006 projects in progress. In January there is a workshop for the Highway Patrol 2007 Initiatives in Investment Strategies. They will look at capabilities and development process to see where we are in January 2006 and where we are going. She discussed Common Multi-region projects such as the Incident Management training in July. The training is needed without worrying about funding. In Communications projects, the regions are looking at Interoperability. Search and Rescue State Task Forces are looking at how to develop new teams.

- Steve Harsha reported on the Kansas Winter Storm FEMA DR 1675-KS, was the most horrendous in history. Activation of Level II on Dec. 20, 2006. Level III on Dec. 30, 2006. The number of shelters open at Peak was 20. Assigned out 47 missions and Federal Declaration occurred. There were 3 fatalities occurred with snow depths of 4 inches in Saline county to 30 inches in Wallace county. The number of meters out at peak was 46,300. The number of power poles down at peak was over 10,500. Main highways and roads were closed for days. The public utilities took the biggest financial hit. Steve reported ESF involvement acknowledging the excellent service by the people involved. Search and Rescue issued Air Search operations and Aerial Reconnaissance, however needed Law Enforcement agencies to go door to door for checks and contact daily. The Health Department built a GIS data base for assistance in local hospitals and care facilities. There is a Census tracking for other levels of data. ComCare and the Department of Aging are in contact and taking action for more level of awareness, although counties also track specific locations. Power outages from the storm created huge communication issues. Radio stations went down in the storm and resulting in the National Guard and Highway Patrol physically checking on people. They found that people resist leaving their homes and shelters in which daily checks became necessary.
- The storm occurred between December 28-31 2006 by FEMA regulations. The Declaration was made on January 7, 2007 in 44 counties and with 12 emergencies. The Federal Thresholds were discussed by Steve regarding FEMA and state responsibilities. FEMA offers public assistance and the state has its own program that continues. The state has to meet \$3 million to get assistance with FEMA covering 75% of the costs, the state covers 10% and the individual applications cover remaining 15%. The Individual Assistance Program did not meet the threshold. The field offices alternate in Hays and Topeka with State staffing of PA military linked with equal FEMA. FEMA leaves 3/16/2007. The assessment of counties for damage include the process of Field Teams, Joint Field Office, Kick-off meeting and project worksheets. The Administrative public Assistance specialists get money approved by FEMA and back to the applicants. The process of Initiation of Public Assistance Program is as the following: 1) Disaster 2).Declaration 3). Assessment 4). Requests 5).Application Briefing 6). Project Worksheets 7).Project Funded.
- Summary: Small Projects are those less than \$59,700. Large Projects are greater than \$59,700. The total is \$380 million with 241 eligible applicants including government entities, private non-profits and REC's. The amount of project worksheets complete to date are 541 not including the REC's. Steve discussed the categories of assistance which include debris removal, emergency protection measures, roads, utilities, parks and

recreation. The major damage was with the utilities with total of \$351 million. Total damages that FEMA is obligated to is \$24million and has paid out \$556,000. Steve also discussed mitigation issues with \$150 million of federal funds and potential projects. Open disasters began in 2002 and are beginning to close out. Randy commented that in 1995 there was a 4 year closing of this disaster. Mark Krentz commended Steve for doing a great job and everyone for their assistance.

- Break for recess and lunch break at 11:35 AM. Meeting reconvened at 12:00 PM.
- Update by Jaci Vogel

Jaci made an acknowledgement for Mark Krentz in his dedication and work appreciated in Video Public Information. Jaci discussed how the 800 Megahertz System did not lose any towers in the storm. She stated that 12 of 14 towers run generators and turn on automatically. These generators were running for 2 weeks after initial start. KHP and KDOT suffered no communication problems because the system worked and the Public agencies benefited. In addition, she reported that the Interoperability Project is in Phase 2 and currently working in the Northeast Kansas and South Central Kansas corridors. The Leasing Program for tower space or 800 megahertz radios continues to offer continuity between turnpike communications. Anthony reported on Disability issues confirming that it is moving in the right direction. After the Katrina National Conference, the Federal Government decided there is a need to improve State's assistance. Disability needs for populations within Regional jurisdictions are being developed. The Federal Government is in the process of appointing an agent for the Special Needs population and will be requiring Quarterly reports. In addition to this information, Anthony offered to assist in training anyone in the departments who are interested in Special Needs training

Spills Update

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Michelle Bolton

- Michelle Bolton reported on the 2006 top 5 chemicals released with comments on upgrades to the database. The top of the list of chemicals includes Sulfur Dioxide at 729,088 lbs, Salt Water at 63,438 lbs, Anhydrous Ammonia at 29,402 lbs, Hydrogen Sulfide at 14,120 lbs and Nitric Oxide at 7073 lbs. One of the upgrades to the data base is that there are no longer any duplication of spills entered. The other update is that there are no longer able to enter a Form A without a confirmation number.

State /Local Plans Update

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Angee Morgan

- Angee Morgan discussed the Kansas Response Plan at the State level. The Energy Operations Plan documents and describes the

citizens property in disaster. It is a comprehensive plan that covers all aspects of emergency preparedness, response and prevention. It is an all-hazards approach flexible enough in all emergencies and functions on the 4 Levels. It is Risk-based and contains hazard-specific information based on hazard analysis. This is an emergency operation plan that has the authority and organizational relationships to focus on life-saving. This plan is the center piece of a comprehensive emergency plan. Angee discussed Governor Sebelius promulgation of the Kansas Response Plan in September 2006 as part of the National Incident Management System. The plan uses common terminology and allows for more detailed and specifications of responsibilities. It integrates the ICS and the response is more organized. It involves the Emergency Support Functions #6 as the primary agency. This plan mirrors the National Response Plan and is consistent on ESF #15. The support functions to provide information to decision makers for interpretation and predictions.

- Angee discussed Mitigation Planning with the purchase of mitigationplan.com software in Feb. 200. This has been approved and there is a conversion of 20/20 data to new program. Disaster Mitigation Act of 2000 requires each entity to have a FEMA approved mitigation plan in order to receive Part 404 mitigation dollars. Disaster DR-1675-KS estimate \$50 million.

Right to Know

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Frank Moussa

- Frank Moussa discussed the publics Right to Know concerning the Kansas City, MO. incident and the response of LEPC and CEPR. Anyone can request information at the Tier 2 level. The LEPC procedures requires the request in writing. If the individual doesn't receive the information, they may petition for it. Frank further added that post 9/11 the Right to Know cannot be denied to anyone. However, CEPR is allowed to ask for clarification for the use of this information. There is a grant from the EPA for Nebraska, Kansas, Iowa and Missouri, to get Tier 2 information shared between states. Responders in the KCMO incident had information from the EPA, but counties also needed the information. The EPA and Health Department are still assessing the data on the flammable and carcinogenic chemicals released in the chemical fire. Noted that need to add to Tier 2 information regarding pesticide applications and licensing. An attendee asked about GO coding. Next SERC demonstration of project. There was a question if there is a need of SERC to establish policy. Maj Gen Bunting noted the Statute '63 and will look at compounds, but will need to establish procedures. Considered requiring the SSN

from individual requesting information. There was reasonable concession. There was a request of staff to have policy to adopt SERC.

KDEM Operations Update

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Randi Stahl

- Randi Stahl reported on the KDEM Operations Update and other activities. She discussed the Preparedness Activities and Response and Recovery. There are many Preparedness operations that include procedural updates and re-evaluation. There were a collection of suggested changes in KRP revisions. The Preparedness Weeks upcoming events include the National Weather Service and a new Preparedness Week on wildfire. She further discussed the participating executives of the HB Influenza and Wolf Creek. There was also discussion of Courthouses and the KDHE contracts. There is the subcontract for Operations Base/Staging, Planning Kansas Citizen Corps Conference, FY '07 DHS Grant Approach Operation, Region Capabilities
- The Regional Capability Development includes the Regional Incident Management Teams (IMTS), Regional Tech Rescue Teams – NEW, Communications/Interoperability assessments for the NW Region Complete. Now they are assessing the SW Region.
- Response Activities include the Back to Back Storms DR-1675, Seeking Business to report Effects – Collective Businesses., SW Kansas Flooding, Tornadoes/ Sever Storms caused damage to 2 SE Kansas counties – there were 4 or 5 homes destroyed. They stand ready to support other states through EMAC.
- Randi discussed the efforts in the area of Recovery involving seeking information for the SBA disaster and Declaration. This agency also works with volunteers in Agencies Active. There was an attendee question concerning correct hospital assessments and accessibility issues. Mindy stated that there is a need for assessment from all hospitals. This may be a Security or Health and Human Services issue. Another project in SW Kansas was discussed involving foreign animal disease and the necessary response. There needs to be an assessment of equipment and response capabilities required for surge. Randy Duncan points out issues with KDEM involvement of increase of requirements at the same time of a decrease in US dollars. There is an increase of \$200,000 for Emergency Management in Kansas.

Legislative Update

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Randy Mettner

- Randy Mettner reported on updates to the Legislature and the 2152 Bill. There was an event for the Governor to sign legislation on the CEPA Bill.

The number 958-A was assigned for the Bill. There were no questions or comments.

Meeting Adjourned at 1:45 PM:

Closing remarks and informal announcements of upcoming events were provided by the attendees. The Committee is requested to fill out the supplied matrix of dates to aid the office in determining next date. Randy Duncan moved that the meeting be adjourned; the motion was seconded by Dan Thompson and passed unanimously.